

Distributed on:

NOV - 6 2009

by City Manager's Office

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Debra Figone

SUBJECT: City Manager's Weekly Report

DATE: November 6, 2009

INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

Update on Regional Park Closures—The October 30 CMO Weekly identified regional park closures that will begin on November 30, 2009. Overfelt Gardens, originally scheduled to close on Tuesdays, will close on Mondays instead. This change was determined to be more beneficial to the public and more conducive to maintenance staff scheduling. For more information, contact Mark Marney, Deputy Director, PRNS at 793-4186.

Fountain and Regional Park Closures; Cesar Chavez & Rose Garden Fountains Remain in Operation—As a cost-saving measure, the decorative fountains in most City parks were shut down in October in accordance with the 2009-10 Adopted Budget. The most popular fountains in Plaza de Cesar Chavez Park and the Municipal Rose Garden will remain in operation. Fountains affected by the shut-down are located at Guadalupe River Park, Canyon Creek Park, Overfelt Gardens Park, Bellevue Park, Old City Hall and Saint James Park. The annual savings from the shut-down is calculated to be approximately \$65,000. As proposed, these fountains are closed permanently and will eventually be replaced by other low-maintenance park amenities. For more information, contact Mark Marney, Deputy Director, PRNS at 793-4186.

Yard Trimmings Collection Pilot—On November 9, Environmental Services (ESD) will implement an 18-month pilot program (affecting approximately 4,500 households in five areas of the City) to test the collection of yard trimmings in carts only. Carts will be provided to residents in the pilot areas at no charge during the pilot period. In response to resident and Council Office concerns, staff has modified pilot parameters to ease the transition to the new collection method. During the first three weeks of the pilot, residents may set-out yard trimmings in carts and overages in loose piles. Starting November 30, residents will be asked to place their yard trimmings in carts only for routine collections. However, to help with the large amounts of trimmings cart collection will be supplemented with scheduled loose yard trimming collection once-per-month. To ensure cleaner streets, this collection will usually be followed by regularly scheduled street sweeping. A letter will be mailed the week of November 9, informing residents of the new schedule for supplemental loose pick-up in the street collection. The letter will also let residents know that additional carts are available at no charge, for homes that routinely generate more yard trimmings than normally fit in one cart.

ESD continues to seek feedback from pilot participants and has scheduled five community meetings to date. Recycle Plus program staff and customer service representatives from the City's Call Center will be available on the Veteran's Day holiday to address service issues and resident concerns. Additionally, a pilot hotline (975-2526) and an e-mail address (pilotinput@sanjoseca.gov) have been

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject: City Manager's Weekly Report

Date: November 6, 2009

Page 2 of 4

established to streamline calls and responses to e-mails. For more information, contact Donna Perala, IWM Residential Services Program Manager, ESD at 975-2511.

City Bike Fleet Launched—On October 16, Jim Helmer, Peter Jensen, and Steve Ferguson launched the City Bike Fleet Pilot Program with a short round-trip ride between City Hall to the old MLK Library. The Bike Fleet Pilot Program consists of six bicycles available for use by City employees for work-related trips or during breaks. The bikes can be reserved on-line, in the same fashion as City vehicles. In addition to "greening" the City's fleet in keeping with the Green Vision, this program supports employee wellness. This innovative program is funded from the Citywide Workers' Compensation Gain Sharing Program, which uses savings from reduced employee injury and illness claims to provide incentives to departments to create a safer workplace and reduce injuries, as well as the DOT Bicyclist/Pedestrian Program. To qualify for bike use, employees must complete a two-hour bicycle training class. Training classes and bikes will be made available to all City employees this winter. For more information, contact John Brazil, Bike/Ped Program, DOT at 975-3206.

City Green Team Launched—On November 3, approximately 40 employees from throughout the City attended the City's Green Team kick off meeting. The City Green Team consists of volunteers that will focus on increasing employee awareness of the City's Green Vision goals and empower staff to make simple behavior changes in the workplace that advance the Green Vision goals related to energy, water, waste, and fuel use, while reducing City expenditures. A City Green Team intranet resource site is set to launch in early December. Interested staff are able to participate in one of three areas:

- **Green Team Department Leads:** For employees who want to lead and be a resource for department staff as well as act as a conduit for experts. Estimated time commitment is about 5-6 hours/month.
- **Expert:** For employees that have expertise in areas of energy, transportation, water, and waste, to support Green Team Department Leads. Estimated time commitment is about 4-6 hours/month.
- **Information Seeker:** For employees interested in receiving green tips and attending quarterly events that help them make simple behavior changes for a healthier work place.

For more information, contact Ashwini Kantak, Assistant to the City Manager, at 535-8147.

Starbird Youth Center Awarded SILVER LEED Certification—The City's Starbird Youth Center, a Redevelopment Agency project managed by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, has been awarded LEED® SILVER certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. The Center achieved LEED certification for incorporating energy efficient lighting and equipment, and designing the building to maximize the use of daylight. The Center also incorporated the installation of water efficient fixtures and use of recycled material. Using less energy and water means this building reduces operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to a healthier local and global environment. Starbird Youth Center is the sixth City facility to be awarded LEED certification. For more information please contact Dionne Early, Green Building Coordinator, ESD at 975-2595.

DOT Launches New Website to Promote Traffic Safety—The Department of Transportation last week launched a newly redesigned website for its nationally-recognized Street Smarts Traffic Safety Education Program. The updated, interactive site details programs available for schools, neighborhoods and seniors. The site also features traffic safety tips, games and information for both children and adults. The site reinforces safety information delivered to school kids and adults through

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject: City Manager's Weekly Report

Date: November 6, 2009

Page 3 of 4

various presentations, and includes downloadable literature in multiple languages. For more info, contact Linda Crabill Byrne, Traffic Safety Education Manager, DOT at 975-3238, or visit www.GetStreetSmarts.org.

"Wonders of Our Water Works" - Plant Bus Tours Update—During the month of October, 558 people toured the San José/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant. In October, staff conducted 17 tours for residents, permitted businesses, and students. More than 1,800 people have toured the Plant since the tours season began last May, and close to 1,100 public input surveys have been collected. Plant tours raise public awareness of the wastewater treatment plant and gather input for the development of the Plant Master Plan – a project designed to guide the plant's next 30 years. The last tours of the 2009 season will take place on the first three Saturdays of November (Nov. 7th, 14th, and 21st). For more information, contact Bruce Frisbey, Tour Manager at 975-2556 or visit <http://sanjoseca.gov/esd/plantmasterplan>

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Grand Opening of St. Elizabeth Park—Saturday, November 7, 10 a.m., southeast corner of St. Elizabeth Drive and Curci Drive. For additional information, contact Brian Clampitt at 794-6203.

Project Veterans Connect—Tuesday, November 10 at the Boccardo Reception Center – One Stop Homeless Prevention Center, 2011 Little Orchard from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

One-Stop Homeless Prevention Center Tours—Over the next three months, EHC LifeBuilders will be providing one-hour tours to anyone interested in learning more about the innovative services at EHC LifeBuilders' new One-Stop Homeless Prevention Center located at 2011 Little Orchard Street. The tour will consist of a short presentation outlining the program, how it assists clients to achieve stability and self-sufficiency in Santa Clara County, and additional information such as program goals and outcomes, success stories, as well as methods and principles implemented at the site. Tours will be held three times a month from October through December, or by special appointment. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Ray Bramson at 539-2103 or at rbramson@ehclifebuilders.org:

October: Tuesday, October 20 – 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.; Friday, October 23 – 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.; Wednesday, October 28 – 12:00 -1:00 p.m.

November: Wednesday, November 4 – 9:00 a.m. -10:00 a. m.; Thursday, November 12 – 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.; Tuesday, November 17 – 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

December : Thursday, December 3 – 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.; Tuesday, December 8 – 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.; Wednesday, December 9 – 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

"Day of the Dead: a Passion for Life" Exhibit— An exhibit of more than 50 images captured by accomplished local photographer and community newspaper publisher Mary J. Andrade. The exhibit, located on the second floor of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library continues through Friday, November 27. For additional information on the photo exhibit, contact Veronica Murguia at 436-7850 ext. 12 or at veronica@laoferta.com.

"The Art of Remembrance" Exhibit—An exhibit of traditional altars curated by Mary Jane Solis, located on the fifth floor of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library through Saturday, November 14. The exhibit is part of Día de los Muertos 2009 presented by San José Multicultural Artist Guide and

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject: City Manager's Weekly Report

Date: November 6, 2009

Page 4 of 4

Teatro Familia Aztlan, in collaboration with the City of San José, Castellano Family Foundation, Target Stores, Mexican American Studies Department and Cesar Chavez Community Action Program at SJSU, Assemblymember Joe Coto and Councilmembers Madison Nguyen and Sam Liccardo. For more information, call 272-9924.

Unveiling of Deep Space Images from NASA's Great Observatories—On November 17 at noon, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library will host an unveiling of never-before-seen multi-wavelength images produced in collaboration by NASA's Great Observatories— the Hubble Space Telescope, Spitzer Space Telescope, and Chandra X-Ray Observatory. The Library is one of two institutions in the Bay Area (152 nationwide) selected to host this special event in celebration of the International Year of Astronomy. The International Year of Astronomy Great Observatories Image Unveiling is made possible by special funding from NASA's Science Mission Directorate. The project is collaboration between the Space Telescope Science Institute, Spitzer Science Center and Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. The image unveiling takes place in the King Library's Fourth Street Lobby and will be followed on Saturday, November 21 with a day of discovery activities for all ages, including lectures by faculty from the SJSU Physics & Astronomy Dept. For more information, call 808-2397.


Silicon Valley Turkey Trot-Run or Walk for Health, Hope and a Home—Thursday, November 26, 7:30am-12pm Guadalupe River Park Arena Green. For more information, contact Carl Guardino at 501-7864.

Wonders of Our Water Works Bus Tours Extended Through November 21, 2009—First and third Saturdays, 9:00-11:00 a.m., and 1:00-3:00 p.m. Free two-hour bus tour of the Water Pollution Control Plant to learn how wastewater is treated. Participants must be 10 years or older. For reservations, contact Bruce Frisbey at 975-2542, or visit www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/plantmasterplan/tour-reservations.asp

Christmas in the Park—Friday, November 27 through Friday, January 1, Plaza de Cesar Chavez. For more information, contact Brian Clampitt, Event Coordinator, at 794-6203.

Heritage Holiday—Saturday, December 5, 12 p.m. -5 p.m., Kelley Park/History Park. For more information, contact Pam Watson at 918-1055.

San José Holiday Parade—Sunday, December 6, 8:30 a.m.-11a.m., Guadalupe River Park Arena Green. For more information, contact Brian Clampitt, Event Coordinator, at 794-6203.



Debra Figone
City Manager